



# ***Mounted Water Ration Heater [MWRH]***

## ***Overview:***

The lack of an onboard capability for armored vehicle crews to heat individual rations, prepare beverages, or provide limited personal hygiene was viewed as a major quality of life deficiency in Operation Desert Shield/Storm. A market investigation identified a commercially available device, designated as the **Mounted Water Ration Heater (MWRH)**, with the potential for providing sufficient quantities of hot water for heating Meal-Ready to Eat (MRE) entrees, preparing hot beverages or soups, or for shaving and washing. Following testing to verify the performance capabilities of this item, the MWRH was Type Classified-Generic in May 1993.

Accelerated acquisition and initial fielding for M1, M2/M3, M109 and M113 armored vehicles of the MWRH was completed in 1996.

## ***Description:***

The MWRH is an electrically-operated, thermostatically-controlled heater that uses the host vehicle's 24-volt system as the power source. A voltage controller set to 20 volts prevents the MWRH from draining the vehicle battery. Requiring a minimum of space in armored, infantry, and artillery tracked vehicles, and potentially, some wheeled vehicles, the MWRH can be operated when the vehicle is stationary or on the move.



The MWRH is designed like a double boiler, with an inner and outer container. The larger outer container (heater) is filled with water and the smaller container, which holds as many as five MRE entrees, is inserted into the outer container to heat the contents.

The MWRH heats one gallon of water in 40 minutes, or five MRE entrees and 40 ounces of water in 80 minutes. The MWRH will maintain the water and rations at set temperature for as long as operationally required. The unit can dispense hot water for beverage, soup or hygiene use through a spigot.

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